

## **Historic, Archive Document**

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.



# U. S DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE LIBRARY

## Newsletter

New Series, Vol. 2, no. 1

January, 1932.

Mr. Knowles A. Ryerson, In Charge of the Division of Plant Introduction of the Bureau of Plant Industry, was the speaker at the January meeting of the staff. He gave a most interesting and instructive talk on the work of his office.

The library of the Division of Cotton Marketing of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics has recently prepared a statement describing its service. This statement is for the use of the staff of the Division, especially the new members.

Mrs. Lois B. Payson has recently joined the staff of the main Library as an assistant in the Catalogue Division. She is a graduate of the University of Illinois Library School and has had experience in the library of Montana State College. Last year she took graduate work in the Columbia University School of Library Service.

Miss Ruby M. Wilson, of the Catalogue Division, is planning to leave the Library in February for about five months' work at the University of Illinois Library School, which will complete her course at that school.

Among the visitors to the main Library during the past month were Dr. S. W. Fletcher of the Pennsylvania State College, Dr. L. H. Bailey, and Dr. J. D. Wilson of the Ohio Experiment Station, who was verifying an extensive bibliography on plant diseases and soil environment which is soon to be mimeographed.

The Bureau of Agricultural Economics library had a number of visitors from the various economic meetings during the holidays, particularly the American Farm Economic Association.

The supply has recently been received of the printed "Biography" card to be used in noting biographies in the index of biographies maintained in the main Library. The cards can be obtained from Mr. R. T. Umhau of the main Library. The cooperation of the members of the staff is earnestly requested in noting biographies of agricultural and scientific workers.

The list of bulletins of the agricultural experiment stations for the calendar years 1929 and 1930, by Catherine E. Pennington, has recently been issued as Miscellaneous Publication 128. It contains 88 pages and is the fifth supplement to Department Bulletin 1199. The last four supplements have been issued with subject indexes.





U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE LIBRARY

Newsletter

New Series, Vol. 2, no. 2

February, 1932.

At the meeting of the Library staff on February 19 an interesting talk on "George Washington and Agriculture" was given by Mr. Everett E. Edwards of the Division of Statistical and Historical Research, Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

A luncheon meeting of bureau librarians and heads of divisions in the main Library was held at the Evergreen Cafeteria on February 17. The principal topic of discussion was the circulation of current periodicals.

On account of the demand for copies of Bibliographical Contribution no. 22, "George Washington and Agriculture", by Everett E. Edwards, it has been necessary to reissue it twice. The total number of copies thus far issued is 1,700.

Members of the Library staff attended Doctor Ezekiel's lecture on Russian agriculture at the National Museum on February 10. Mr. Ezekiel, formerly on the staff of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics and now connected with the Farm Board, spent a month in Russia during a year of European travel on a scholarship from the Guggenheim Foundation.

The Bureau of Agricultural Economics Library started the year's contributions in bibliography with the following:

Advantages and disadvantages of farm life; a short list of references. Compiled by Louise O. Bercaw. 6 p. typewritten.

Cotton surplus relief plans, some references to comment on the subject, 1930-date. Compiled by Mildred C. Benton. 11 p.

The Advisory Committee on Social and Economic Research in Agriculture of the Social Science Research Council, appointed, more than a year ago, a small sub-committee consisting of Dr. L. C. Gray, Dr. C. J. Galpin, and Miss Mary G. Lacy, to undertake the translation and reproduction for sale at cost of the salient parts of basic foreign works in the field of agricultural economics. This experiment is being made in an effort to improve existing facilities for bringing the work of foreign economists and sociologists to the attention of workers in the field of agricultural economics. The first translation, which consists of extracts from Dr. Max Sering's *Agrarkrisen Agrarzölle*, is finished and is ready for sale at seventy-five cents a copy to agricultural economists, libraries, teachers, students, and any others who are interested. It will be necessary to sell 500 copies in order to make expenses, which include the cost of translation, the mimeographing, and postage. Approximately 100 copies have been sold to date.

The annual dinner of the Outlook Conference, January 27, was well attended by members of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics Library. The Secretary was present part of the evening, making a short talk of welcome. Delegate speakers from Arkansas, Minnesota, Montana, and New York, discussed the absorbing topic of land utilization or "land use". Doctor Gray, of the Division of Land Economics, and Mr. Evans, of the Farm Board, were among the other speakers. Doctor Warburton presided. More than 200 guests were present.

The extension publications of the State agricultural colleges received currently by the Office of Experiment Stations Library are now listed twice a month for publication in the Official Record under the heading "State Extension Publications." The first list of this kind appears in the February 6 number of the Official Record. For economic reasons the Monthly List of Extension Publications was discontinued last September. However, a list is being prepared for the months of October, November and December in order to avoid gaps in the records.

Mr. O'Donovan of the University of Dublin, who is at the Brookings Institution on a Rockefeller fellowship, has been doing some work in the Bureau of Agricultural Economics Library.

Mr. Cary of the Institute for Research in the Social Sciences, University of Virginia, and Mr. H. Shiga, Secretary of the Raw Silk Association of Japan with offices in New York City, were recent visitors at the Bureau of Agricultural Economics Library. Mr. Cary is making a study of cooperation in the cotton industry and is searching Southern farm papers for data. Mr. Shiga's visit was in the nature of a farewell, as he was returning to his country for an indefinite stay.

In the main Library the desks of the cataloguers are being sent, two by two, to the Department shops for refinishing so that they will not be out of harmony with the new building when the Library is moved into it. The old Library Bureau desks, no longer obtainable, are preferred to new desks not specially designed for library use.

#### Personnel

Miss Ruby M. Wilson, of the main Library is on leave until June 15 to complete her course in library science at the University of Illinois Library School. In the meantime her work, which consisted especially of cataloguing the new periodicals received and the periodicals returned from the bindery, has been divided among other members of the cataloguing staff and Mrs. Watrous of the Readers' Division.

Arthur Housholder has been appointed as a messenger in the main Library.

Isadore M. Markfield, Library Aid in the Bureau of Chemistry and Soils, has resigned to take a position in the Army Medical Library. E. Perry Cunningham has been appointed to take his place.



## Agricultural Library Notes

An earnest plea is made for contributions for Agricultural Library Notes. Very few contributions have been received from members of the staff in the main Library and the bureau libraries during the past few months. In handling publications, please keep in mind items which may not be seen by other agricultural library workers and which might be of interest to them. With the full cooperation of the staff the library will be able to make Agricultural Library Notes much more useful.

### Dating of Memoranda and Notes

In sending correspondence to other members of the staff, the reference slip or notation on the letter, in addition to bearing the name of the person to whom the letter is being sent, should always be dated. If this is not done, the person receiving the letter may be wrongly blamed for delay in handling the correspondence.

### A Word to the Staff from the Librarian.

In the rush of daily routine are we failing to see opportunities to increase our efficiency and to eliminate laborious practices which are out of date and are continued merely because they are familiar? Have not members of the staff some suggestions for improvement? If so, the librarian would be very glad to have them.





U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE LIBRARY

Newsletter

New Series, Vol. 2, no. 3.

March, 1932.

An interesting talk on his recent official visit to Great Britain and the continent was given by Mr. B. Y. Morrison of the Office of Horticultural Crops and Diseases, at the meeting of the Library staff on March 18.

Mrs. Louise R. Joseph, who was formerly a member of the main Library staff, and later was editor of bibliographies for the Editorial Office of the Department, died at her home in Florida on March 8 after a long illness.

Dr. L. H. Bailey was a recent visitor to the Library. He photographs with his own camera parts of old botanical works.

The Crop Production Loan force (recently authorized as a temporary relief measure) is occupying the rooms on the east side of the new extensible building, and also is in the room across the hall which is to be the reference room of the Library when the Library moves. We trust that by the time the Library is ready to move in, the Loan force will have moved out.

The bids for the stacks for the new Library quarters are to be opened Friday, April 1.

Elbert Wilson, one of the messenger boys in the main Library, was recently operated on for appendicitis. We are glad to say he is making a good recovery.

The following bibliographies have recently been compiled in the Bureau of Agricultural Economics:

References on the materials for American agricultural history. Compiled by Everett E. Edwards, Associate Agricultural Economist. Jan. 1932. 7 p. Mimeographed.

Uses for cotton: selected references. Compiled by Mildred Benton, Division of Cotton Marketing Library. Feb. 1932. 12 p. Typewritten.

Mr. H. Mitomi, General Real Estate Agent, Bureau of Maintenance and Improvement, Government Railways, Tokyo, spent some time in the Bureau of Public Roads Library last week, looking up the subject of highway finance. The resources of the Library have also been called upon extensively by Mr. Frederick Simpich, of the editorial staff of the National Geographic Magazine, in connection with a story he is writing on the history of bridges, and by the Exhibits Section of the Bureau for information relating chiefly to the construction and use of Roman roads, particularly the Appian Way.

The annual spring visits of the students from the University of Maryland to the Bureau of Public Roads Library have begun. One of the young ladies is writing a thesis on roadside beautification.

Father C. E. Deppermann, S. J., of the Philippine Islands Weather Bureau, is spending some weeks at the Weather Bureau Library, doing research work, particularly on the methods of forecasting weather.

The weekly luncheon of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics Library staff on March 16 was devoted to an attempt to show the relation of the pioneer work of Dr. Frederick J. Turner, who had died the day before, to the work of the national committees now working on a land utilization program. Mr. Everett E. Edwards addressed the meeting. Following is a brief abstract of his talk: The famous paper read by Doctor Turner in 1893 before the American Historical Association, entitled "The significance of the frontier in American History", injected a new point of view into the minds of American historians by showing that for nearly 300 years the people of the United States had always been able to move into new lands when they could not get along with their neighbors, or for any reason were not satisfied with the conditions in which they found themselves. To put this in other words, they ran away from their problems instead of solving them. But in 1893 it was recognized that the frontier was gone - there was no free land to which to move and start over again. Problems must be faced and solved, plans and policies must be worked out to meet new conditions. One of the most important of these fundamental problems was that of the proper utilization of land. Historians, economists and statesmen have been thinking and writing on this subject ever since, and last November the Secretary of Agriculture called a conference to consider the question of a national policy of land utilization. At this conference two committees were appointed-- the National Land Use Planning Committee and the National Advisory and Legislative Committee on Land Use - both of which are hard at work evolving a policy and plan for the proper use of our land, which is fundamental to any effective solution of the present depressed agricultural situation. The problem of insuring a proper use of land is no longer academic; it is recognized as being of practical and immediate importance.



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE LIBRARY

Newsletter

New Series, Vol. 2, no. 4.

April, 1932.

At the meeting of the Library staff on April 14, Miss Sybil L. Smith, in charge of the Foods and Nutrition Department of the Experiment Station Record, and Assistant in Experiment Administration in Home Economics in the state agricultural colleges, gave an interesting talk on the various aspects of her work.

A talk on the work of the Library and the publications of the Department was given by Miss Barnett on Monday, April 11, before the students of Arlington Hall.

The members of the Library School of Hampton Institute visited the main Library the morning of April 14. There were nineteen in the party.

Several members of the staff of the main Library and of the bureau libraries attended the reception at the Patent Office Monday afternoon, April 11, visiting the Library especially.

Mr. Perez-Catán, Agricultural Attaché of the Argentine Embassy, and a fellow countryman were visitors in the main Library and in the Bureau of Agricultural Economics Library Wednesday, April 14. Another recent visitor to the main Library was Dr. Richard P. White, of the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station.

The typewritten lists of the Station publications, other than bulletins, prepared in the Office of Experiment Stations Library, have been revised through 1931. Copies of the lists have been filed in the main Library.

At the request of Dr. C. J. Galpin of the Division of Farm Population and Rural Life, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics Library is planning to annotate and mimeograph the recently compiled typewritten list of references entitled "The advantages and disadvantages of rural life" by Louise O. Bercaw.

The Exhibits Section of the Bureau of Public Roads, in cooperation with the Bureau Library, has begun a thorough search of the material in the libraries of Washington, with a view to running down all information available on the history of roads in the United States. A record of the references to this information is to be kept on cards and filed in the Bureau Library.

Through the courtesy of Doctor Ashby of the University College of Wales, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics Library has received a list of books, papers, etc., dealing with the study of farm labor in Germany.

In view of the fact that the utilization of cotton is one of the projects of the Cotton Marketing Division of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, Miss Mildred Benton of the Cotton Marketing Division Library attended the recent style show at Jelleff's which featured entire cotton costumes for women for all occasions.

Mrs. Ammie Bacon Muir, for several years a member of the staff of the main Library, resigned on March 31. Mrs. Lois B. Payson, of the Catalogue Division, has been temporarily transferred to her position as Chief of the Bindery Section.

In the Bureau of Animal Industry Library, Mrs. Rebecca Huber is writing up the cards for the Index to Veterinary Literature.

Mr. Harry F. Koch, formerly of the Periodical Division of the main Library, who has been attending the School of Library Service at Columbia University this year, has been awarded a Carnegie scholarship for next year.



No other members  
present for 1932

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE LIBRARY

Newsletter

New Series, Vol. 2, no. 5

May, 1932.

In place of the regular library staff meeting in May, it was decided to have a staff picnic. At the kind invitation of Mrs. Weld, this was held at her home in East Falls Church, where her beautiful garden was inspected and a delicious supper served by Mrs. Weld and a committee of the staff. There were enough automobiles belonging to various members of the staff to transport all who went -- 48.

Miss Hawks of the main Library and Miss Day of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, were the only ones from the Department who attended the A.L.A. Conference at New Orleans. Miss Day acted as secretary of the Agricultural Libraries Section in the absence of the secretary, Miss Jessie M. Allen. Miss Allen was re-elected secretary for next year and Miss Cora Miltimore, Librarian of the University of Florida, chairman. Miss Day and Miss Hawks both took the two-day post conference trip through the Teche country, and Miss Hawks stopped in Knoxville to see Miss Lucy Ogden, formerly Librarian of the Office of Experiment Stations.

Several members of the library staff of the Department attended the Columbian Library Association meetings at the University of Maryland, May 21, and the afternoon meetings at the Folger Shakespeare Library and the Library of Congress.

The various offices of the Bureau of Home Economics, including the library, moved in April to their new quarters on the sixth floor of the South Building. The library of the Bureau is located on the south side of the B Street corridor.

The library of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics has on file in typewritten form and is willing to lend, translations amounting to 163 typewritten pages of certain extracts from Walter Rothkagel's "Handbuch der Schätzungslehre für Grundbesitzungen". Among these extracts may be found the author's sections on the various conceptions of value and the objects of appraisements, price determination for various kinds of property, determination of price of landed property and the relations between price and income, appraisal based on purchase price and based on returns, distance from market as factor in appraisal, etc.

The Missouri State Highway Department is collecting information regarding special library organization and procedure in connection with a library it proposes to establish for its use. The Bureau of Public Roads library was one of a group of special libraries favored with a questionnaire



Librarians will no doubt find helpful the "Fifty-year index to personnel and publications of the Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station" which has been issued as Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station Bulletin 501, April, 1932.

A selected list of references on "Boys' and Girls' 4-H Club Work in the United States" has been compiled by Edith J. Webb, Office of Experiment Stations library. The list comprises 217 pages of mimeographed material and includes references to books, periodicals, bulletins, and articles in the farm papers on 4-H club work issued prior to 1931. The Office of Experiment Stations library has also prepared a typewritten list of selected references on "Rural Women's Organizations", compiled by Helen V. Barnes, at the request of Miss Grace Frysinger, Office of Cooperative Extension Work.

The firm of Kane & Co., of Baltimore and Washington, has been awarded the contract for the moving of the offices to the new South Building. The contract also includes the moving of the Library but the date of the moving of the Library is still indefinite as the contract for the stacks has not yet been awarded. After the contract is awarded it will probably take between two and three months to build the stacks.

Mr. Hoon K. Lee, who was a member of the staff of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics library for nine months in the capacity of a translator, is now Dean of Agriculture of the Union Christian College, Pyeng Yang, Korea. In addition to his duties as Dean, Mr. Lee has been doing research work for the Institute of Pacific Relations. He has completed a study of economic conditions and colonization in Manchuria, a short abstract of which appeared in the April number of the American Geographical Review.

Mr. Ray Eilers, a patent attorney of St. Louis, spent several days during the past month in the Bureau of Public Roads library looking up information in connection with a case he is trying in Delaware. Mr. Eilers expressed his surprise at the wealth of information contained in the Bureau of Public Roads library. He also gave the library staff a talk on the field of the librarian as a corporation research worker. It seems to be his opinion that here is a field which the librarian does not fully appreciate and of which he does not take full advantage.

At the weekly library luncheon at Brookings Institution, Tuesday, May 17, Miss Louise Evans gave a talk on the annotated current literature list, "Highways", issued by the Bureau of Public Roads library. Miss Evans is acting as Chairman of the Nominating Committee of the District of Columbia Library Association.

Miss Orpha Cummings, Librarian of the Giannini Foundation of Agricultural Economics, University of California, is spending her vacation in Washington, and during the past week has been visiting the Library of the Department, particularly the Bureau of Agricultural Economics library.

Mrs. Marguerite Benny Caldwell, Librarian of the Canadian Industries, Ltd., Montreal, Canada, was a recent visitor at the main Library, on her way home from the A.L.A. Conference.

Miss Ruby M. Wilson, who has been on furlough since the early part of February in order that she might obtain her degree in library science at the University of Illinois Library School, will resume her duties in the main Library on June 16.

At the George Washington University graduation exercises this year, Miss Mildred Wilson of the Bureau of Public Roads library, will obtain her Master's degree, and Miss Margaret Bird, also of the Bureau library, and Mrs. Hazel B. Mercier, of the main Library, will receive their B. A. degrees in library science. Miss Wilson majored in history, and her thesis is entitled "The Place of M. Aulard in Modern Historiography".

